FORM Pro 1390 (REV 5-93)

US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/E0/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. §371

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER 2001-0615A

U.S. ANDLIGATION NO. 982

3 0 MAY 200

International Application No. PCT/JP00/07147

International Filing Date October 13, 2000 Priority Date Claimed
October 14, 1999

Title of Invention

METHOD FOR INSPECTING SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER SURFACE

Applicant(s) For DO/EO/US

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Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

- 1. [X] This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. §371.
- 2. [] This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. §371.
- 3. [X] This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. §371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. §371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
- 4. [] A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
- (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(2)) [X] A copy of the International Application as filed
 - a. [] is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. [X] has been transmitted by the International Bureau. ATTACHMENT A
 - c. [] is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
 - . [X] A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(2)). ATTACHMENT B
- 7. [] Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(3)).
 - a. [] are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. [] have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. [] have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. [] have not been made and will not be made.
- 8. [] A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19.
- 9. [X] An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(4)). ATTACHMENT C
- 10. [] A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(5)).

Items 11. to 14. below concern other document(s) or information included:

- 11. [X] An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. ATTACHMENT D
- 12. [X] An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.

ATTACHMENT E

- 13. [X] A FIRST preliminary amendment. ATTACHMENT F
 - A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
- 14. [X] Other items or information: Notification Concerning Submission or Transmittal of Priority Document -

ATTACHMENT G



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

By: Nils E. Pedersen .

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May 30, 2001

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

ICHECK NO. LUX718

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